



Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

Date: October 17, 2002

To: Transportation & Public Works Committee

Subject: Requesting Authorization to Solicit Proposals for Consulting Services

Recommendation: Authorize Transportation and Parking Services to Solicit Proposals for engineering services to develop a traffic signal timing plan for the Minneapolis Central Business District (CBD).

Previous Directives:

April 6, 2001 – City Council Action approved \$2,740,000 in funding for LRT related projects from a combination of sources to be determined.

Council Action 2001R-233, June 8, 2001 - City Council action approved \$540,000 in CIP for Downtown signal retiming

Prepared or Submitted by: John Hotvet, Traffic Operations Engineer- Phone 673-2743
Heidi Hamilton, Engineer III – LRT Project- Phone 673-3439

Approved: Brian Lokkesmoe, Interim City Engineer, Director of Public Works

By: _____
Gregory A. Finstad, Director, Transportation and Parking Services

Presenters in Committee: Gregory A. Finstad

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

☒ No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)

- ☐ Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- ☐ Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- ☐ Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- ☐ Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- ☐ Other financial impact (Explain):

☐ Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Background/Supporting Information Attached

In conjunction with the implementation of LRT Transportation and Parking Services is requesting authority to solicit proposals to perform engineering services to develop traffic signal timing plans for implementation in the Minneapolis CBD. The services

required will include traffic data collection, signal timing plan development and optimization, integration of timing plans with proposed signal timing along the 5th Street LRT corridor, development of traffic control system data base elements, and assistance in the implementation and validation thereof. This work is being done to coincide with the beginning of LRT operation within the City in April 2004.

The signal retiming project is being undertaken to revise traffic signal timing to reflect changes in traffic patterns that have occurred as a result of the numerous structural additions, and geometric/operational revisions in the street system within the downtown area such as the addition of LRT operation on 5th Street, new employment centers and parking facilities, and several bus and bike lane additions. The last major revision of the signal timing within the CBD occurred in the fall of 1993. Transportation Services does not currently have the facilities, expertise, or staff to perform these activities with its own personnel.

We anticipate that these engineering services can be provided utilizing a local consulting firm at a cost of approximately \$500,000 to \$550,000. Staff proposes to fund approximately \$250,000 of the signal timing effort with the Municipal State Aid (MSA) funds that were designated in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) by the City Council for Downtown signal retiming. Although \$540,000 of MSA funds was programmed in the CIP, only approximately \$250,000 of the cost is eligible for MSA funding.

Several additional funding sources at the County, State and City levels are being investigated to underwrite the remaining project costs in addition to MSA funding. The RFP will be issued to indicate two project phases so that the scope of services can easily be adjusted to match the funding available at the time that a contract is awarded. Downtown traffic operations will benefit significantly from the limited project scope, but cannot be optimized without funding for the full project.

T&PW – Your Committee authorizes City staff to solicit proposals for engineering services to develop a traffic signal timing plan for the Minneapolis Central Business District.